

Service Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
May 21, 2024

The Service Committee met in Council Chambers on May 20, 2024, following the Finance Committee with these members in attendance:

Jeff Rath - Chair
Dustin Neely – Vice Chair
Bill Cost Jr.
Beth Bline
Bradley Chute

We wish to report:

1. **Resolution No. 24-54** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT WINTER CONTRACT (018-25) FOR ROAD SALT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Dave Rhodes, Service Director – We want to have the authority to enter into a salt contract for next winter. Looks like we want to get about 500 tons. The reason for the emergency is we need to meet the deadlines of the contractor.

Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Cost, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 5-0.

2. **Resolution No. 24-58** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO PURCHASE TWO (2) USED STREET SWEEPERS FOR THE STORMWATER UTILITY WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING.

Brandon Fox, Water Administrator – I'm speaking on behalf of myself and Mr. Morehead who is out of the office today. The city currently has a street sweeper that has needed replacement. It's 12-13 years old. As part of our storm water utility, we're required to sweep the streets, clean the catch basins. I've got a list here. We have over 530 miles of roads. 60,180 catch basins that we're responsible to maintain, clean, and remove the potential storm water pollution. I started the discussion and investigation of replacing the street sweeper and found that a new street sweeper is approximately \$450,000 on the cheap side. So, I did a little more digging and found a used, or some used street sweepers, from a company called... They basically buy used military equipment, refurbish it, and resell it. Truck Site is the name. Buster and the maintenance staff from the Street Department went and visited the units. Looked at them, test drove them, operated them, and are interested in purchasing 2 used street sweepers. They're in the ballpark of \$175,000 a piece instead of the 450 for one unit. They're approximately 11 years old. They're 2011 or 2012. They only have about 70 operating hours on them. They were at a military airport. They're like brand new. Buster is here if you have any more questions.

We've got storm water funding to purchase them and we've also got the Service Director is going to try to get \$100,000 of the ARP funding to purchase the other one. So, funding is placed in the storm water. We would have to appropriate the ARP money for that.

Mr. Rath – The reason we are waiving the competitive bidding is because this is a specific company?

Mr. Fox – Correct. There are multiple companies that sell used equipment. These were in such good shape they're like brand new. They painted them white, so they will look like the ones you see driving around the streets now. I thought it was a very good investment. I think they did it a few years ago on an ambulance or a fire truck.

Mr. Neely – Do we have two now? Did we have one that went bad?

Mr. Fox – We do have two. We are going to replace the one. The other one will be an extra one that we can operate at any given time. They were in such good shape, and it was such a good deal. So, that's up for debate if you want to purchase one or two, but we recommend purchasing two.

Mr. Neely – Do two of them run at the same time sometimes?

Mr. Fox – Yes.

Mr. Cost – You were talking about 70 hours of use on them? How many hours are on the ones that we have?

Mr. Fox – Do you know how many?

Buster Prince – No. These were military and used on their airbases for their air strips. So, they have very little hours.

Mr. Fox - Would you say ours have thousands of hours, right?

Mr. Prince – Yeah, probably a couple thousand hours.

Mr. Fox – So, there's engine hours, drive hours, and operating hours that the actual vacuum unit, that's what has 70 hours on it. They collect the debris in a dumpster basically, and what they saw, the paint was still on there. They have hardly been used.

Mr. Rath – If there's street sweeping at an airport, I would assume that there would be other hours, other aspects of the machine that would be very limited because they really want (inaudible). Unlike us driving around the city.

Mr. Fox - I can get you that information. It had it. I'm going to say less than a couple hundred hours total of other operating hours.

Mark Mauter, Director of Development – Brandon, is there any timeframe that you are working within to make that purchase?

Mr. Fox – We put \$1000 deposit just to hold, but if we don't purchase, we will get that money back. They are holding those units for us. We did not put this through as an emergency. We have funding. We're just asking for the normal process to make it happen.

Mr. Rath – If we can get two used units for \$100,000 less than we can get one brand new unit, it sounds like a great deal to me. It makes absolute sense.

Ms. Bline – I noticed how some cities are using their vehicles as multi-purpose units. Like, they can take off the brushes and apply other uses. Whether it's a scraper or something for off season. Is that a possibility for these since they were military?

Mr. Fox – No. These do have a vacuum. Our current units do not have a vacuum. So, you have a vacuum truck that can suck up leaves, or go into a catch basin and suck it out as well. So, it is a little more dual purpose than the units we have now.

Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Neely, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 5-0.

3. Updates on Water and Wastewater projects.

Mr. Fox – I wanted to do this last month, but we were a little busy last month. I think Mr. Loomis used to do this. He's been gone since April. It's been over a year. I wanted to provide an update on all of our water and sewer projects. Fourth St. sewer separation project is wrapping up. Cost just over \$27,000,000. Hopefully, we'll get that project closed out here in the near future of 2024. That was the third phase of our long-term control plan project for CSO separation. East side water transmission line is the 16" watermain that we put in up Dayton Rd. to Butler Rd and connected the loop out there. That was all funded through the Ohio Department of Development Grant, so the 4.3 million dollars, engineering, construction management, and construction has been all grant funded for that. The waterline is in. It has been in service for about 4 months. Now they are working on landscaping. We are also paving a lot of area out there in cooperation with the county. That project should be completely done by late, second quarter of 2024. That will also provide a second connection point for the Licking Valley water district that council approved several months ago. So, they will connect at Butler Rd. and Dayton Rd., and also down E. Main St. They will have a valve vault there and a master meter that the water will go east out into that service area. Thornwood-Faye Dr. booster station. This is an improvement to our current, second pressure zone out on the west side. There is currently a water booster station at Thornwood and River Rd. where the roundabout is occurring. We are adding a second booster station at Faye Dr. and Thornwood. They are working on getting that pump station in service. Once that station is in service, we will be taking down the Thornwood booster station and replacing it as well. Basically, we have 2 pump stations that are redundant out there to service that area. It's growing, and we want to provide quality service out there. We also replaced about 1200' of an old cast iron water line that was in the ground. It should tie in nicely with the 2 new booster stations. Lead service lines projects 1-3 are complete. We did about 700 galvanized, non-copper, non-plastic services. We used some ARP funding for that initially. The number 3 project was OWDA funded. So, out of that almost \$4,000,000, we'll only have to pay back about \$800,000 of that at 0% interest. Those projects allowed us to learn what we were doing, so now we are working on projects 4 and 5. Number 4 is working currently. They are working on Hudson Maul St. area, and Mt. Vernon Rd. Number 5 we are hoping to award in June, so we'll have 2 projects working. Total of about 1100 services. Once those 2 projects are done, we'll have about 1800 – 1900 services out of the 5,000-6,000 that we have to do in the city. Again, we are borrowing money from the OWDA at the 47% payback. So, for every dollar I only have to pay back 47 cents of it at 0% interest. Still a really good deal. Ohio EPA will be funding that program for the next 4 years. We're trying to get as much of that funding as we can.

Mr. Rath – You said projects 1-3 are completed and you did 700 services. What's the percentage of services that should have been done vs services completed? Don't we have some people who won't sign the agreement?

Mr. Fox – Those services we completed on people that had signed up for that replacement. The next 500 that we initiated, the contractor, we gave them 250 services that we had signed agreements with. The other 250, they have to go knock on doors to actually get those agreements signed. We probably have 500-700 services in hand that people have signed up for that are working under these number 4 and 5 projects.

Mr. Rath – In projects 1, 2, and 3, we did 700 services. How many services were eligible to be done?

Mr. Fox – I'm going to say probably 1100-1200.

Mr. Rath – So about 70%.

Mr. Fox – Yes. We're getting them as first come first served. We also prioritized for leaks. We put them at the top of the list and try to have that resolved in about 5 days. If you don't know if you have a galvanized service, reach out to us. You can fill out the form online. We have 6 more of those to do. We'll have 12 projects total on that. UV upgrade the wastewater plant. This project was completed February of this year. It was about a \$5,000,000 project. We replaced the UV equipment that was over 20 years old, as well as the PLCs in the plant that operate all the other equipment in the plant. Racoon Creek streambank project. This was a cooperative project with the Army Corp of Engineers and the city. At Church St. there is a spillway that was redone. We paid 35% of that project, and that was completed late last fall.

Water treatment plant instrumentation upgrades. This is another PLC. This was updating a lot of the monitoring and equipment in the plant. Adding some new instrumentation and monitoring in the river. So, when there is a mud event or rain event, we can tell quicker, and staff can respond. S. Second St. from the bridge down to the river on Second St. and National Dr. It was originally about a \$25,000,000 project. It came back at about a \$14,000,000 bid. It is another long-term control plan project that is slated to be completed late next year. There is some coordination between the Army Corp of Engineers that has to happen in order to run our new storm and sanitary lines through the flood wall. There will be a lot of work down there for another year and a half. River Rd. sewer. We had \$3,000,000 set aside from the ARP money that Roger Loomis put in place before he left. The project did not get completed as expected to in the timeframe. Now we have an estimate of about 4.4 million dollars to complete that project. There is a pump station at park trails, that sewage is pumped under pressure over to Thornwood Dr. We would be replacing that pump station with a gravity sewer. I did submit that for an Ohio Department of Development Grant in February, and have not heard back yet. If we get the grant, we'll move forward with bidding as soon as possible. If we don't get the grant, we're going to have to discuss funding. 16 North Project. This is the big project. Estimated at about \$85,000,000 currently. It has to be completed by June 2028 as part of EPA orders. It will replace all of the storm, sanitary, and waterlines in Hudson, Mt. Vernon Rd. area from 16 North up to Stevens, Shields area. We are in design with that. Hopefully, it will go to bid next year. Licking River Dam Spillway. A project that the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources requires us to do for flood protection. In partnership with the Engineer's office as part of this roundabout that is being built up there, we are doing this project as part of that. That came in a little above our Engineer's estimate, but we are moving forward with that. We have bond note money that we are spending on that. That will be completed this fall. A couple things on the water and sewer discussions that are happening in Licking County. We kicked off a water capacity study last year to determine potential impacts of western Licking County demand. It is ongoing. We hope to have that by fall of this year. Water Asset Management Plant Development. This was a requirement of us to get the lead service line funding through Ohio EPA. This project was about \$400,000. It gave us a road map and evaluated every asset at the water plant and in the distribution system. We found about 40% of our assets were at or near failure. Wastewater System Master Plan. We treat about 8 million gallons a day, and we're rated at about 8 million gallons a day. We don't have a lot of dry weather flow capacity at the wastewater plant. We're getting ready to select an engineer to do this. Over the next 6-9 months they'll evaluate the wastewater plant. It hasn't been done in over 20 years. We'll look at the assets from a high level, look at our growth projections for the city, and try to provide guidance over the next 5-20

years as to improvements we might have to do at the wastewater plant. We hope to have this completed by the end of this year. I added some on here that are not capital projects on the last 2 pages. I won't share all of those. Water tower painting. We also submitted that for a grant this year. It's about a \$400,000 project. Gregory Dr. and Brenton Dr. is an unsewered area that we are looking to add sanitary sewer to. The health dept. has identified that as a critical area that small parcels and a lot of failing septic systems up there. About a 3.7 million dollar project that hopefully we get money from the grant project. The rest of those are just long-term projects that we have laid out.

Mr. Rath – Brandon, I appreciate your time. You do have a great responsibility and a lot to do.

Meeting stands adjourned

Jeff Rath -Chair